

FROM WASHINGTON.

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Halleck's Resignation—Old Abe's

Anxiety to Kill off Grant—Legislation for the Nigger—The Reign of Social Equality with the Negro to be Inaugurated.

[Special Correspondence of the Chicago Times.]

WASHINGTON, February 10.

It is stated positively that Gen. Halleck has resigned, and that the President only waits the positive and final action of Congress in relation to the Lieutenant General matter, in order to accept the resignation. Some persons here doubt the fact of the resignation, because, they say, Halleck has already put up with so many slights, and po-ked so many off-ends that this Lieutenant General business will not affect him any more.

than former insults have. But the people who talk thus do not know Gen. Halleck. It is for this very thing that he has borne with so much hitherto. It has been the hope of one day being

along to put up with the stupid ignorance of Lin-
coln and the vulgar brutality of Stanton, and to
see his plans coolly interfered with and set aside
by both. He has endured all this (and this too

him must have been peculiarly galling for he is a gentleman,) hoping that, in due time, he would receive his reward in the shape of a Lieutenant General's commission. He never tried to win that position by the splendor and success of plans of campaigns. If he did, he quickly abandoned that idea as boneless for Lincoln, as Commander

in-Chief, always insisted on knowing what his plans were, and he and Stanton, together, always took care that they should miscarry. Halleck wrote his recent report at a period when he was particularly irritated at Lincoln, and hence its sharp denunciations of the ex-Rail-Splitter. But, in reading his report in that vein, Halleck

simply butted his head against a stone wall; for, from that moment, his destiny was fixed. The Lieutenant General project was originally concocted by the radicals, in order to prevent Grant from hurrying the war to a termination. It was eagerly embraced by Lincoln, who thinks that he can, in this manner, get rid of a formidable

rival for the Presidency. But "Honest Old Abe" is dreadfully irritated in regard to the exposures contained in Halleck's report. That document fastens on him, and on him alone, the sole responsibility for all the disasters that have befallen our arms, and for the failure of the war generally. Lincoln has just sense enough to

know that he cannot shake off this responsibility; that he cannot suppress Halleck's report; that the latter will go before the world as an authentic exposition of the war; and that he (Lincoln) will then stand before the world in anything but an enviable position. Hence he gladly avails himself of this pretext to get rid of Halleck.

The action of the Senate Military Committee, in refusing to recommend Gen. Grant for the position of Lieutenant General, is only a move of the radicals to kill him off. This action of the Senate Committee is inspired by what is known to Sumner, Wilson & Co., to be the President's wishes on the subject. And this may kill the

It is positively sickening to be in Washington now, and see how much of the time of Congress is occupied in legislation for the nigger. It is a positive fact that the fancied interests of the negro are considered as of transcendent importance

gro are considered as of much greater importance, compared with the real interests of the actual citizens of the Republic. Every day Mr. Sumner gets up with a long petition or resolution, granting this, that, and the other privilege to negroes. Now it is to ride in the cars with white people, then to have the same pay as white soldiers, then to become officers in the negro regiments.

The people of Illinois may as well understand it at once. The hateful doctrines of amalgamation and social equality with negroes are to be forced upon us by this administration,—by the action of Congress if possible; if not, then by

the use of the army. It will be done. At least it will be attempted. It is a part of the programme determined upon by the Republican leaders. It remains to be seen whether the American people are such slaves as to submit to it; and, in submitting to it, to submit to a reenactment here of the frightful scenes of San

I do not believe they will. I believe the people, at the next Presidential election, will hurl Abraham Lincoln back to the obscurity from whence he sprang, and will elect George B. McClellan—the only man whom this war has produced who combines the soldier and the statesman in his place. I have great confidence in

inad—in his place. I have spent some days in the interior of Pennsylvania recently, and I am amazed at the depth and extent of the feeling for McClellan. It pervades all classes. The people are determined to elect him. X.

The special Washington dispatches to the Cincinnati Gazette contain the following particulars of the escape of our officers from the Libby Prison in Richmond:

Captain William Wallace, of the 51st Indiana

(originally from Peru, Indiana,) who escaped from Libby Prison through the tunnel, arrived to day, and was on the floor of the House. He came nearly due North from Richmond till he reached our lines. He says they began digging the tunnel on New Year's Eve, and only finished it the night before making their escape. The work was carefully concealed even from the

work was extremely concealed, even from the bulk of their brother officers, for the reason that rebel spies are believed to be among them, clothed in our uniform, and professing to be prisoners from some of our regiments. The working party were all sworn to the most solemn secrecy. They began back of the stone in a room on the ground floor, where a pile of ashes enabled them to con-

their work. From this they dug into the chimney, and so down into the cellar. This cellar was filled with old rubbish, and also contained a pile of straw. They began their tunnel from this cellar, digging through the whole night, relieving one another by turns, and piling the dirt taken from the tunnel in a corner of the cellar.

from which they had removed the rubbish. Every night before closing their work they would stamp this dirt down, to make it occupy as small a space as possible, and then cover it over with straw. They would then black their boots and remove every particle of clay from their clothes, and after morning roll call spend the day in sleep.

Col. Rose of Ohio acted as chief engineer in managing the direction of the tunnel. They continued this way night after night, till the evening before making their escape. Some negroes who were in the prison waiting on prisoners, discovered the tunnel, but, instead of reporting it to the

They dug in this way under an adjacent street and finally came to the surface of a vacant lot 50 yards distant. At the point where they were under the street they were only four feet below the surface, and nothing but the tenacity of the soil prevented the tunnel from crumbling. To

ward the close they became, alarmed at the pile of dirt excavated, and in order to make it occupy as little space as possible, they only made the tunnel large enough for a medium sized man to crawl through on his belly. When they came to attempt the passage several of the men stuck fast, and it was with the utmost difficulty that

It was owing to this delay that comparatively so small a number escaped. As it was, as many got out as possibly could till daylight came to check their operations. Many, however, started without any provision, and being compelled to

stop at homes for food, were discovered. To this and to their weakness and long continued privations, the recapture of so many is attributed.

Colonel Straight is expected here to-night, and Captain Wallack leaves for his home in Indiana.

— That Gen. McClellan has a hold upon the

people which no amount of contumely and detraction by the Administration and its partisans can disturb, is shown in the fact that, night before last, in one of the most crowded and fashionable places of amusement in this city, a complimentary allusion to the hero of Antietam brought down the house with long continued applause.

applause, and produced for the actor who uttered it a call before the curtain. Only a single hiss was heard, but the man who uttered it speedily subsided under the ominous and universal thunders of "turn him out!"—[Chicago Times.